

Commissioner Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
315 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

MM 87-268  
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RECEIVED

MAY 8 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

BY FAX: (202) 418-2801

Dear Chairman Hundt:

On behalf of the Alliance for Community Media, fellow users of my community access center, non-profit groups around the country, and American taxpayers, I respectfully urge you and other members of the Commission to delay issuing "digital" licenses to the broadcast television industry until the time as they are ready to use them, and to demand that television broadcasters compensate the federal government for their use of public property.

As you may know, a number of representatives of the broadcasting industry have announced within the past few weeks that their plans to implement "digital television" have been delayed, with most industry sources stating that the spectrum will be used for the purposes for which it was intended no earlier than 1999, and perhaps even later than that. In the meantime, it is clear that they will begin to use the spectrum for non-television services and services for which the rest of the wireless telecommunications industry will be paid market-based rates at public auction. In addition to giving away this valuable public resource, this move will also have the effect of giving broadcasters an unfair competitive advantage in relation to other communication service providers.

This is \$70 billion that could be used to provide support for public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access to the broadcast media. Commercial, non-profit PEG is a highly successful model for creating and increasing citizen involvement in local affairs. PEG access supports distance learning, community involvement and democratic discourse over a variety of media. Now the Commission has an opportunity to give non-profit groups and individuals the ability to generate and disseminate information through the vastly increased carrying capacity of digital television. Funds generated by the sale of digital spectrum at auction could help our children extend the benefits of the Information Superhighway to all.

We respectfully urge the Commission to hold the issuance of these

valuable licenses in abeyance until such time as the broadcasting industry indicates its willingness to adequately compensate American taxpayers for the use of their property.

Sincerely,

*Catherine Collins*

1235 Otis St, NE

Washington, DC 20017

cc: Edward O. Fritts

National Association of Broadcasters

.....

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MAY 8 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

625 Broad Street  
Wadsworth, Ohio 44281



MM 87-268  
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330-336-7919  
Fax 330-335-2711

The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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MAY 8 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

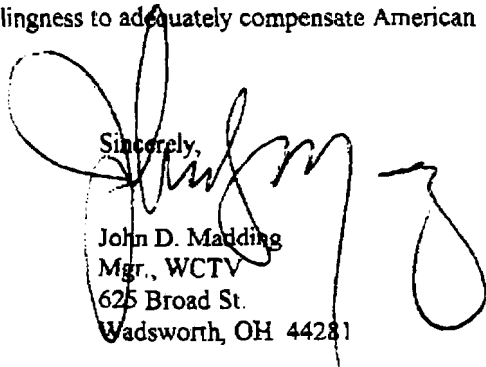
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Sincerely,

  
John D. Madding  
Mgr., WCTV  
625 Broad St.  
Wadsworth, OH 44281

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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MM 87-268

EXHIBIT OR LATE FILED

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Conrad W. Jordan  
2439 Netherwood Dr,  
Saint Louis, MO, 63136  
April 15, 1997

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MAY 8 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Mr. Reed E. Hundt  
Director FCC  
1919 M. Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

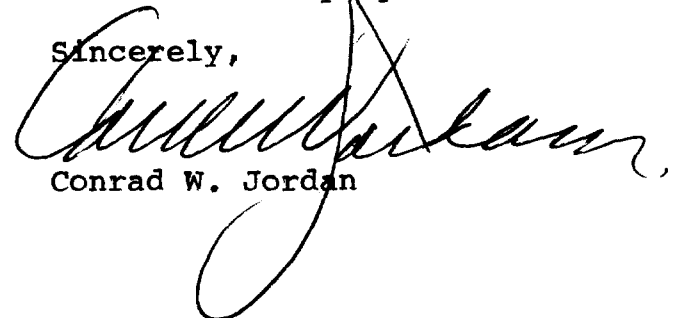
Re: Digital Television  
Citizens Band Radio

Dear Sir:

Why can't the television industry simply gradually integrate digital television into the current system? Is it true that in nine years everyone in the U.S. will no longer be able to receive analog broadcast? Is it true that everyone will have to purchase a digital television? Is it true that the cost will be expensive, I hear around \$2000.00 per set. Who's stupid idea is it to drop this bomb on poor people anyway?

Have you heard the garbage and filth on the CB airwaves nowadays? I know this may be more of a regional problem, but citizens band radio is too crowded. You should make it more difficult to get a license. If you can't do that then just shut down, and keep shutting down until there is some improvement. The CBers' are just abusing the air with filthy talk. Someone should monitor this stuff and take away licenses for at least two years minimum. That's my opinion.

Sincerely,



Conrad W. Jordan

CJ

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MM 37-268

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The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 614  
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**BY FAX: (202) 418-2801**

Dear Chairman Hundt:

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We respectfully urge the Commission to hold the issuance of these valuable licenses in abeyance until such time as the broadcasting industry indicates its willingness to adequately compensate American taxpayers for the use of their property.

Sincerely,

Pamela R. Celly

Minneapolis Telecommunications Network  
125 S.E. Main St.

Minneapolis, MN.

55414

612-331-8575

E-Mail: PFC@MTN.ORG

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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Sincerely,



Carrick Mundell  
520 32<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98122

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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MM 87-268

March 27, 1997

Michele Farrell  
219 Nassau Ave.  
Kenmore, New York 14217

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The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairperson  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

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Office of Secretary

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Sincerely,

*Michele Farrell*

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MM 87-268



Cape Cod Community Television

307 Whites Path, South Yarmouth, MA 02664. 508-394-C3TV

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The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
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Sincerely,

Charles W. Sherwood, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Cape Cod Community Television

cc, Edward O. Pritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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**WAYCROSS COMMUNITY MEDIA**

MM 87-268

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The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 614  
Washington, DC 20554  
FAX: 202-418-2801

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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Sincerely,



Chip Bergquist  
Executive Director

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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MM 87-268



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March 20, 1997

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MAY 8 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

BY FAX: 202-418-2801

Dear Chairman Hundt:

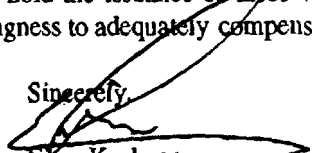
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Sincerely,

  
Eitan Kushner  
Executive Director  
Evanston Community Media Center  
1285 Hartrey Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60202

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters.

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LMA BODE

2

ROBERT D. GORDON  
President & General Manager

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

BOSTON UNIVERSITY  
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.

March 26, 1997

1660 Soldiers Field Road  
Boston, Massachusetts 02135  
617/787-6868  
617/562-1280 fax

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Northwest  
Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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MAY - 8 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to express my concern regarding the power levels being proposed for UHF stations upon transition to DTV. It is my understanding that both the Commission's and MSTV's proposed table of power allotments would put UHF stations at an even greater disadvantage vis a vis VHF stations than currently exists.

As the Licensee of WABU, CH 68 in Boston, we have only recently managed to achieve signal coverage parity with the other stations in the market. To achieve this we purchased, at substantial costs, and re-activated two dark UHF stations as satellites of CH 68. If the proposed power levels for UHF's are approved the value of these investments would be substantially reduced.

Programs such as our 80 Red Sox Baseball games, original local programming, news, college sports, etc. would be unavailable to many of our existing viewers under the proposed allocation.

In addition, we bear an even greater burden than most UHF broadcasters. Three of our four stations are within the frequencies targeted by the transition to DTV, CH 58, Vineyard Haven, CH 68, Boston, and our LPTV CH 67, Dennis MA.

The proposed allotments would further increase the advantage of VHF stations and compound the suppression of UHF stations. We were of the opinion it was the Commission's intent to replicate the signal coverage area of the existing stations in the DTV assignments; however, the proposed assignments do not appear to accomplish this objective. They would permit

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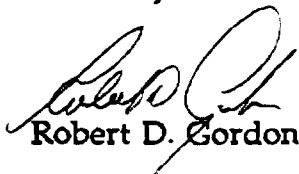
the VHF stations to increase their coverage area, and diminish the power of the UHF stations to the point where it becomes questionably whether their DTV signal would be receivable on an indoor antenna even within our existing Grade A contour.

Under this proposed arrangement many viewers who can not afford cable TV, and who therefore rely on an indoor antenna to receive over the air TV broadcast signal would be deprived of all but the former VHF stations.

Moreover, it is likely that such diminished UHF signals could now fail to deliver satisfactory signals to all the cable systems head-ins within their coverage area.

We respectfully request the Commission to reject all efforts to force approval of the proposed allocation table until ample time has passed to allow sufficient thoughtful discussions to protect against the possible irrevocable harm which would result from an incorrect and unfair allocation by the April target date.

Cordially,



Robert D. Gordon

RDG/ pap

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Chairman Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Susan Ness  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner James H. Quello  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

MAY - 8 1997  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Public Interest Obligations for Digital Television Licensees**

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

We are writing to urge you to require television broadcast licensees to compensate the public with new, specific and enforceable public interest obligations in exchange for the right to use additional, free publicly-owned spectrum to convert to digital television.

As the Commission completes its consideration of whether, and how, to award digital television licenses, there appears to be some doubt as to whether the Commission will condition these new licenses on broadcasters' future compliance with new, specific and enforceable public interest obligations. As we understand it, the specific obligations would be adopted by a future Commission, which would have the benefit of the recommendations of the President's newly formed Advisory Committee on Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters.

The importance of a Commission determination to condition the grant of new digital television licenses on new and specific public interest obligations cannot be understated. The imminent award - without charge - of exclusive access to billions of dollars worth of publicly-owned spectrum for digital television will permit broadcasters to provide multiple channel feeds, including new program and pay services. It would be outrageous corporate welfare - and contrary to the plain language of Section 201 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 - not to require a dividend of public service in exchange for this multi-billion dollar gift of a scarce and valuable public resource.

To obtain Congressional permission to this new monopoly control of twice as much spectrum as before, broadcasters claimed that they are unique in their service to the public interest. All we ask is that you make this commitment specific and enforceable.

Sincerely,

**Benton Foundation**  
**Kathy Bonk, Executive Director**  
**Communications Consortium Media Center**  
**Center for Media Education**  
**Coalition for Diversity of Ownership**  
**Common Cause**  
**Consumer Federation of America**  
**Free TV for Straight Talk Coalition**  
**League of United Latin American Citizens**  
**League of Women Voters of the United States**

**Media Access Project**  
**OMB Watch**  
**National School Boards Association**  
**Natural Resources Defense Council**  
**People for the American Way Action Fund**  
**Public Campaign**  
**Public Citizen**  
**United States Catholic Conference**  
**US Public Interest Research Group (PIRG)**

MEDIA  
ACCESS  
PROJECT

1707 L STREET, NW  
SUITE 400  
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

Chairman Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL MM 87-268

JOSHUA HANIG

701 CRESTMOORE PLACE MARINA DEL REY CALIFORNIA 90291 (310) 305-1610

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554  
BY FAX: (202) 418-2801

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Sincerely,

Joshua Hanig

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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SAINT  
MARY'S  
COLLEGE  
OF CALIFORNIA

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MM 87-268

Moraga, California 94575 • 510-631-4000 • FAX 510-631-0938

School of Liberal Arts  
March 28, 1997

The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554  
FAX: (202) 418-2801

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Sincerely,

*John McManus*  
Professor John McManus

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We respectfully urge the Commission to hold the issuance of these valuable licenses in abeyance until such time as the broadcasting industry indicates its willingness to adequately compensate American taxpayers for the use of their property.

Sincerely,



Laura Stuchinsky

cc: Edward O. Fritts, National Association of Broadcasters

By Facsimile

DOCKET FILE COPY, ORIGINAL 27 March 1997  
MM 87-268

Breed Hunt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Susan Nease  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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MAY - 8 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman and Commissioner,

Some FCC officials feel the broadcast industry is not moving fast enough to phase in digital TV technology, so pressure is being applied to broadcasters to have digital programs on the air by 1998, especially in major markets.

The National Association of Broadcasters is aggressively committed to delivering this technology as fast as possible. The offer to have some but not all stations in the ten largest markets broadcasting digitally is very reasonable when one bears in mind that this technology is an expensive proposition - new antennas and towers must be constructed, new digital cameras purchased and whole new sets built by the stations.

When the FCC next meets on 3 April, I urge that the date of birth of the digital TV era be given more time.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts.

Sincerely,  
Robert E. Ruthowski

2527 Faxon Court  
Topeka, Kansas 66605-2086  
Fax/phone: 1913 339-9671

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MAY - 8 1997

The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

BY FAX: (202) 418-2801

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

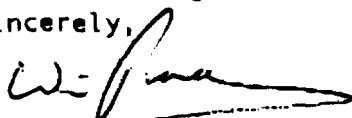
On behalf of the Alliance for Community Media, fellow users of my community access center, non-profit groups around the country, and American taxpayers, I respectfully urge you and other members of the Commission to delay issuing "digital" licenses to the broadcast television industry until such time as they are ready to use them, and to demand that television broadcasters compensate the federal government for their use of public property.

As you may know, a number of representatives of the broadcasting industry have announced within the past few weeks that their plans to implement "digital television" have been delayed, with most industry sources stating that the spectrum will be used for the purposes for which it was intended no earlier than 1999, and perhaps even later than that. In the meantime, it is likely that they will begin to use the spectrum for non-television services -- services for which the rest of the wireless telecommunications industry has paid market-based rates at public auction. In addition to giving away a valuable public resource, this move will also have the effect of giving broadcasters an unfair competitive advantage in relation to other wireless information service providers.

This is \$70 billion that could be used to provide support for public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access to the broadcast media. Non commercial, non-profit PEG is a highly successful model for creating and promoting citizen involvement in local affairs. PEG access supports distance learning, community involvement and democratic discourse over a variety of media. Now the Commission has an opportunity to give non-profit entities and individuals the ability to generate and disseminate information using the vastly increased carrying capacity of digital television. Funds generated by the sale of digital spectrum at auction could help our children and extend the benefits of the Information Superhighway to all.

We respectfully urge the Commission to hold the issuance of these valuable licenses in abeyance until such time as the broadcasting industry indicates its willingness to adequately compensate American taxpayers for the use of their property.

Sincerely,



Will Pasrrinello  
18 Gregory Place Greenbrae, CA 94904

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

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BY FAX: (202) 418-2801

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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Sincerely,



Dane Henry  
2145 E. Dickinson Ave  
Decatur, IL 62521

cc: Edward O. Fritts, National Association of Broadcasters

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

March 20, 1997

The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554



BY FAX: (202) 418-2801

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dear Chairman Hundt:

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Sincerely,

R. Vince Hamilton  
General Manager

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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Houston Texas 77006

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MM87-268

The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

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BY FAX: (202) 418-2801

MAY 8 1997

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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Sincerely,



Devena L. McLaurine  
10019 Southwick Court  
Fredericksburg, VA 22407

cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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CITY OF STOUGHTON

March 25, 1997

The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

On behalf of the City of Stoughton, fellow users of my community access center, non-profit groups around the country, and American taxpayers, I respectfully urge you and other members of the Commission to delay issuing "digital" licenses to the broadcast television industry until such time as they are ready to use them, and to demand that television broadcasters compensate the federal government for their use of public property.

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Sincerely,

*Stu Tolner* *G. L. Derman*  
501 W 80th St  
Stoughton WI 53589  
CITY OF STOUGHTON

CC: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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MAY 8 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

381 East Main Street  
Stoughton, WI 53589

(608) 873-6677

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**Ken Snider**

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**DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL**  
**7907 Southeast Roslyn Street**  
**Milwaukie, Oregon 97222-1052**  
**503-775-5746**  
**snider@imagina.com**

The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

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MAY - 8 1997

MM 87-268

BY FAX: (202) 418-2801

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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c: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, Suite 814  
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

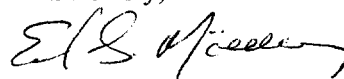
On behalf of the Alliance for Community Media, fellow users of my community access center know as Access Fort Wayne, non-profit groups around the country, and American taxpayers, I respectfully urge you and other members of the Commission to delay issuing "digital" licenses to the broadcast television industry until such time as they are ready to use them, and to demand that television broadcasters compensate the federal government for their use of public property.

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Sincerely,



Erik S. Möllberg  
1319 1/2 West Wayne Street  
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802  
cc: Edward O. Fritts  
National Association of Broadcasters

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